

Monstrare

Imagination in Medicine

Juliet King MA, ATR-BC, LPC, LMHC

Director Art Therapy

Assistant Professor

Herron School of Art and Design, IUPUI

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Neurology

Indiana University School of Medicine

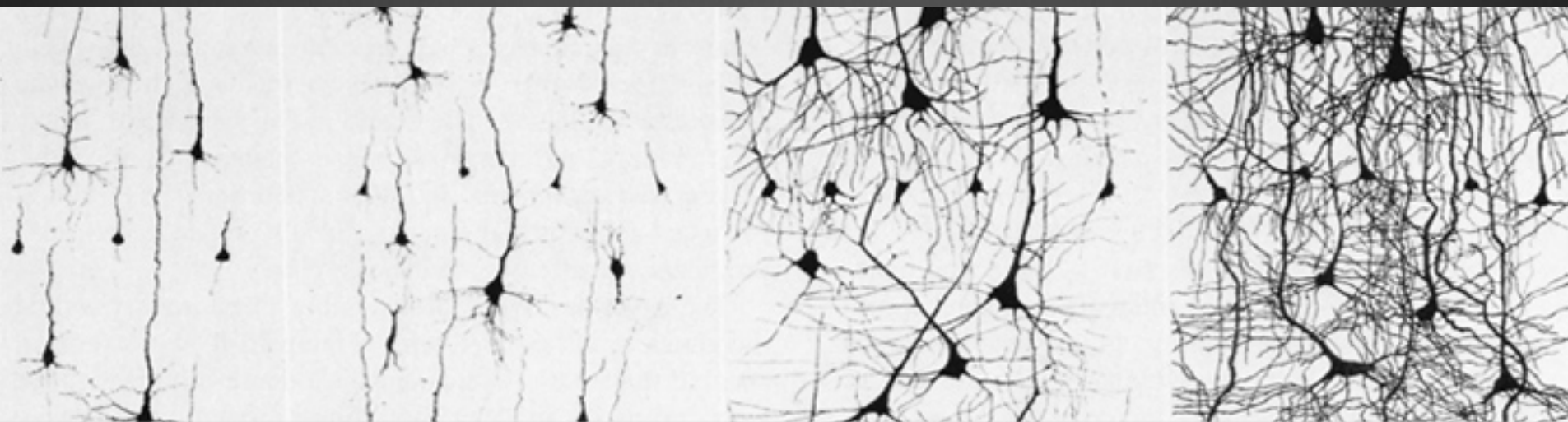
(verb)

- ⦿ TO SHOW FORTH
- ⦿ TO MAKE VISIBLE
- ⦿ TO HAVE SOMEBODY SEE SOMETHING

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humanism in medicine

- ⊗ Humility
- ⊗ Curiosity
- ⊗ Authenticity
- ⊗ Golden rule
- ⊗ “being there”

habits

- ⊗ Ongoing and active self reflection—compassion
- ⊗ Being in a teaching role
- ⊗ Practicing mindfulness
- ⊗ Achieving balance; work-life and work-work
- ⊗ Seeking a connection



It's amazing that we spend so much time and energy addressing the immediate material reality and so little time searching above or beneath it. Thinking about the deeper meaning and purpose upon which our common daily experiences are framed.

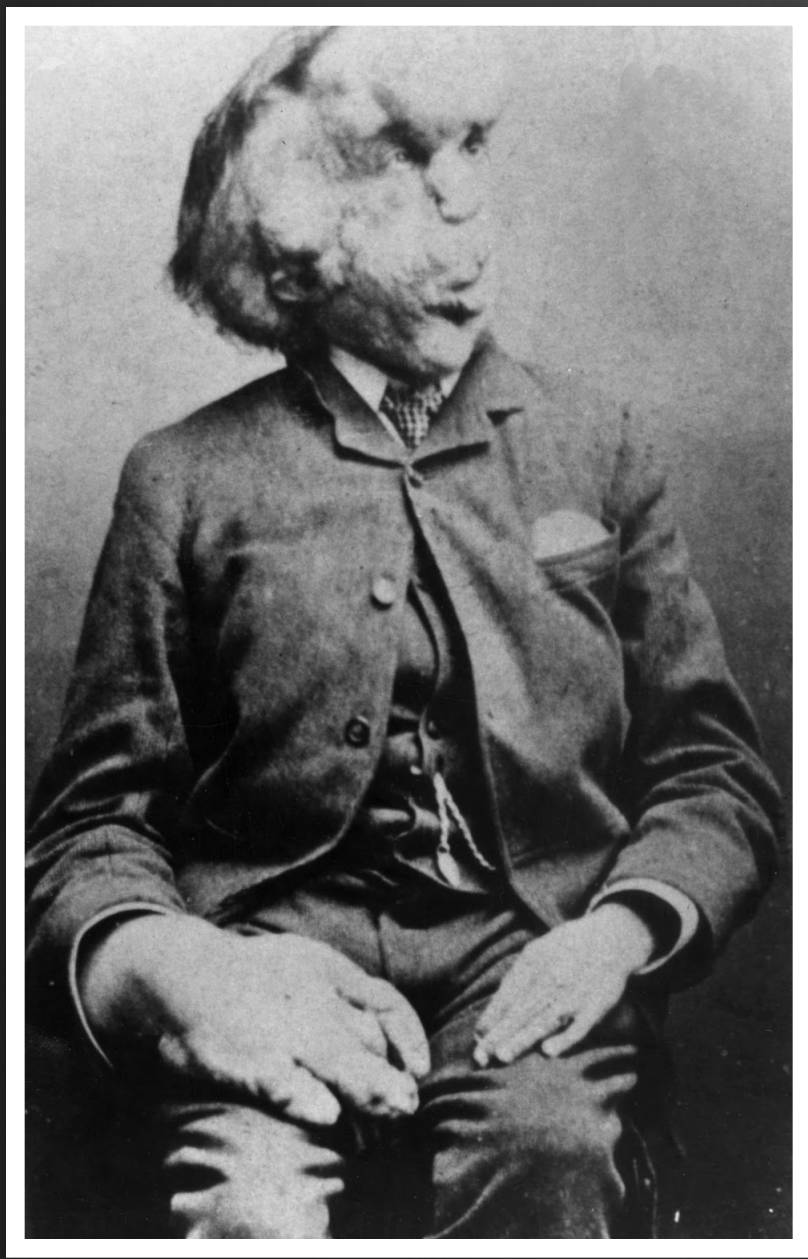
Famous Neurologist

*We spend so much time looking at reality,
which we understand to be what is right in
front of us. There is so much more to us
than this, things we cant see.*



ways of knowing

- ⦿ Symbolic
- ⦿ Undifferentiated
- ⦿ Dreams
- ⦿ Fantasies
- ⦿ Fears
- ⦿ Conflicts
- ⦿ Memories
- ⦿ **Artwork**

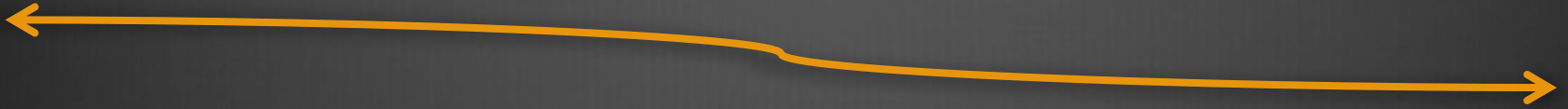


Contemporary

- ⦿ Varied
- ⦿ Modern PSA: Memories, Perceptions, Judgment, Affect, Motivation
- ⦿ Cognitive Psychology: Subliminal: UNC is dumb
- ⦿ Social Psychology: Expansive: UNC is Smart
- ⦿ *Highest level of conscious creativity*

Mind-Body

- ⊗ The mind creates images related to psychic and somatic sources
- ⊗ Distinguishing between physiological and psychological
- ⊗ Psychological characteristics: Comparing waking (ideas) and sleeping thinking (images)
- ⊗ Sources of stimuli are internal and external: In the dream they are considered the same



INTERNAL

EXTERNAL

UNCONSCIOUS

CONSCIOUS

SUBJECTIVE

OBJECTIVE

FANTASY

REALITY

FEELINGS

THOUGHTS

IMAGINATION

- ⦿ CONNECT
- ⦿ DISTORT
- ⦿ INTEGRATE
- ⦿ DEVELOP
- ⦿ NAVIGATE BINARY THINKING
- ⦿ ACCESS EXPANSIVE DATA SOURCES
- ⦿ CREATE

SYMBOL

- ⦿ ILLUMINATE THE ROLE OF SYMBOLISM IN CREATIVE THOUGHT
- ⦿ METAPHOR
- ⦿ NARRATIVE
- ⦿ STORY
- ⦿ MYTH











(verb)

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Imagination in Medicine

- ⦿ *“I use imagination all the time; I am not sure if it is ‘reality medicine’ but my patients are dying.”*
- ⦿ Empathy
- ⦿ Interpersonal connectedness
- ⦿ Creativity
- ⦿ Flexible
- ⦿ Inventive



I sometimes think my head is so
large because it is so full of dreams.

— *Joseph Merrick* —

AZ QUOTES

The same situation exists with people. We have all these opportunities to look into someone and go there and the same thing happens...see all these wonderful things and learn so much and feel so different. But we have to look and not just do the social graces and “howdy” and perfunctory humanism...need to make the effort to get inside of them... sometimes there is little going on in there and sometime is spectacular. Some won't let you in and that should be their choice. More often it is us (me) who simply does not take the time and make the effort to look carefully and thoughtfully enough into people. Lady in senior health clinic today...Mexican, 80ish, speaks no English...I speak essentially no useful Spanish. Parkinson Disease... she has limited means...a year ago as she was not doing very well I gave her a Zachary Taylor gold presidential dollar...and did some trash talking about how he won the Mexican War... and so a year later she brings me as a gift three silver old Mexican coins from her late husband's coin collection...they are spectacular... they tell a story, they are a form of sculpture, and they have texture and they mean something to her. She has 18 great grandchildren and I told her the coins were lovely and special and thanks for bringing them in and please give to your great grandchildren, and...it goes back and forth and she wants me to have these as a meaningful gift and of course we have all sorts of rules against taking gifts from our patients... a laundry list of professionalism code of ethics and all that mumbo jumbo... in the end I took the things and told her I loved them and for all the reasons above they now mean something to me and I will make them make me a better person...and they are really very cool (the Spanish interpreter and also the patient's grand-daughter were in the middle of all this)... and I told her that it was totally against the rules but don't care...a huge gift of heart. And she is such a great person for doing this for me. It was wonderful. The gift of these old silver coins... it means so much if you just give it some thought and jump into it. In our chit chat she makes a crack that I only see her once per year. Which is true. So I changed it to every 6 months. Sometimes you wonder why do these people even care as they have so many other important priorities...and it is not the case that we have cured her...her Parkinson's is pretty bad and she still falls once per month and freezes every time she turns around. Always amazed that beyond caring some of them actually worry about me more than I worry about them. Just blows me away. This lady and I are from different cultures, different countries, we don't even speak the same language, and I am not exactly fixing her problem. We have some connection and I can't explain it. It is therapeutic. And as physicians we never tell people about how important this part of the profession is for us...what we get with these personal relationships. Priceless. And this is I think a reason that you are correct...we need to find a way to instruct medical students and residents in the meaning of things...and the need to develop our abilities to look into someone and go in there and in some way get a better understanding of them...and eventually of ourselves. We don't teach people about the subconscious... we don't even teach them anything about dreams.

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